

[5th March 1925]

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—"Is it the policy of Government not to nominate aliens even though they are domiciled and if so, why is this policy of hatred?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"Hatred? It is not a question of hatred."

### Medical.

#### *The Chowghat hospital.*

\* 384 Q.—Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received a representation from the inhabitants of Chowghat against the proposal of the district board, Malabar, and Ponnani taluk board that the hospital at Chowghat should be reduced to a dispensary and against a low-paid medical officer being placed in charge of it;

(b) the reasons of the district and taluk boards for making such a proposal;

(c) whether one of the reasons was that the hospital at Ponnani should be further developed to the detriment of the Chowghat hospital;

(d) whether the Government will furnish to the House statistics for the past five years showing the number of in-patients and out-patients treated in the two hospitals, the number of major and minor operations conducted for the same period in them and also information as to the area adjacent to the hospital the needs of which are met by them;

(e) what was the amount contributed by the public of Chowghat towards the construction of some wards of this hospital; and

(f) what are the opinions of the district medical officer of Malabar and the Surgeon-General to the Madras Government regarding the reduction of this hospital into a dispensary?

A.—(a) The answer is in the affirmative.

(b), (c) & (f) No such proposal has been received by the Government.

(d) As regards the number of in-and out-patients treated in the two hospitals the hon. Member is referred to the annual returns of civil hospitals and dispensaries which have been placed on the Editors' Table.

The Government have no information regarding the number of major and minor operations conducted in the two hospitals. It is not possible to define accurately the areas served by the hospitals.

(e) The Government have no information.

Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN:—"Sir, the answer to clauses (b), (c) and (f) of my question is that 'no such proposal has been received by the Government.' On the 6th December in answer to a question (No. 1522), the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government placed on the table the report of the Committee (Malabar District Board Retrenchment Committee) appointed under G.O. No. 2043, dated 17th September 1923. The report contains the recommendation regarding the Chowghat hospital. It says: 'Existing men are to be kept on until they are provided elsewhere but the local boards to pay contributions to provincial funds on the above scale only. When vacancies arise they should be filled up by local men on the above scale of pay.' Is the



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hon. the Chief Minister right in saying that no such proposal has been received by the Government when there is a clear proposal by the district board ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ I should like to have notice of the question.”

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—“ Sir, the answer to the question is that no such proposal has been received by the Government. But if, as Mr. Gopalan says, any proposal is received by Government, will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to give the Malabar Members of this Council an opportunity of placing their views before the Government before final orders are passed ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ I am not sure whether there is any such proposal ; however the question will be considered.”

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—“ Before the question is finally disposed of, will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government give the Malabar representatives in this Council an opportunity of placing their views before the Government ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ I have said that the request will be considered.”

Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN :—“ May I ask the hon. the Minister whether Government have been contributing anything for the maintenance of the hospital and whether they have now stopped such contributions ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ Sir, I want notice of the question.”

Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—“ May I ask the hon. the Chief Minister whether it was because the budgets of all the taluk boards in Malabar closed with deficit balances that these medical arrangements were proposed ; and since now all these taluk boards have surplus budgets, will the hon. the Minister be pleased to reconsider the question seriously ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ Yes, Sir. I am not sure whether all the taluk boards have closed with a surplus balance. If it is so, the request will be considered.”

Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—“ If the Ponnani Taluk Board closed with a surplus balance, will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to consider the question of the retention of the hospital of Chowghat as it is ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ In case the taluk board closed with a surplus balance, the matter will be considered.”

Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN :—“ Is it a fact that the Ponnani hospital is to be continued as a hospital ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ I should like to have notice of the question. It is a matter which depends upon the discretion of the taluk board and the question will be decided after consulting the taluk board.”

Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN :—“ Is the hon. the Minister aware that the Chowghat hospital is more popular and useful than the Ponnani hospital ? ”



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Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—“ May I just ask the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government whether he has received any report either from the District Medical Officer, Malabar, or the Surgeon-General regarding the retention of the Chowghat hospital? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ I do not think we have received any report.”

### Religious and Charitable Endowments.

#### *Amending Bill to Hindu Religious Endowments Act.*

\* 385 Q.—MR. S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether there has been any communication from the Government of India or the Governor-General with regard to an amending Bill to be introduced into the local Council to the Madras Hindu Religious Endowments Act?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the press communiqué of 30th January 1925. The Government are not prepared to furnish any further information.

MR. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ Sir, the press communiqué does not refer to any information from the Government of India or the Governor-General regarding an amending Bill. May I ask the hon. Minister whether he can give any information regarding that? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ Besides the press communiqué there is nothing else.”

MR. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ May I ask the hon. Minister why he is not prepared to let us know the communication between the Government of Madras and the Government of India? ”

### Education.

#### *Distribution of grant to elementary schools.*

\* 386 Q.—MR. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether the additional grant made for starting new elementary schools has been spent and, if so, how much and in what manner;

(b) how many new schools have been opened; the amount given to each local body and the number of new schools started in each;

(c) the principle observed in the distribution of the grant;

(d) whether any attention was paid to the poorer local bodies where the educational cess could not be levied; and

(e) in cases where the educational tax is not collected by members, wilfully, whether Government are withholding the grant and the consequent facilities for the starting of new schools, on the score that a few members of the local bodies are wilfully negligent?

A.—(a) & (b) The hon. Member is referred to G.O. No. 1598, Law (Education), dated the 16th October 1924. A copy <sup>a</sup> of the order is laid on the table.

<sup>a</sup> Printed as Appendix IV on pages 878—882 infra.